

Accountability and Oversight

RACE TO THE TOP FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT REVIEW

Maryland

Date of Review: March 5, 2014

Race to the Top award: \$249,999,182.00

Acronyms:

ARRA – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

EDGAR – *Education Department* General Administrative Regulations (codified in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 74 to 86 and 87 to 99)

GEPA – General Education Provisions Act

ISU – Implementation and Support Unit

LEA – Local Educational Agency

Summary of Monitoring Review:

Maryland continues to provide ongoing technical assistance to its RTT LEAs to ensure that the districts receive high quality support to implement the educator quality work in the assurance areas outlined in the LEA RTT implementation plan. The State's supportive documentation indicates the guidance that is distributed to the RTT LEAs to implement the appropriate policy and procedures for the RTT grant. Currently, the State has met the requirements outlined below.

Summary of Monitoring Indicators

Maryland				
Critical Element	Requirement	Citation	Results	Page
Allocations to LEAs	The State allocated funds to participating LEAs based on their relative share of funding under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.	ARRA Section 14003(a)	Met Requirement	
Fiscal Oversight of Race to the Top Funds	The State and sub-recipients used the funds only for allowable activities.	ARRA Sections 14002(b), 14003, 14004, 1604, 1605, and 1606	Met Requirement	
	The State and sub-recipients complied with the principles of cash management (i.e. funds advanced were actually expended).	EDGAR § 80.21	Met Requirement	4
	The State and sub-recipients have systems to track and account for Race to the Top funds in place.	EDGAR § 80.20	Met Requirement	
	The State and sub-recipients complied with cross-cutting ARRA requirements (e.g., Section 1512 reporting, Buy American, infrastructure certification).	ARRA Sections 1511, 1512, 1604, 1605, 1606, and 1607	Met Requirement	
	The State and sub-recipients used the funds only during the period of availability (which may include pre-award costs).	ARRA Section 1603 and GEPA 421(b)	Met Requirement	
1511 Certifications (if applicable)	The State certifies that infrastructure investments have received the full review and vetting required by law and accepts responsibility that it is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars.	ARRA Section 1511	Met Requirement	
Quarterly ARRA Reporting	The State is ensuring compliance with ARRA Section 1512 quarterly reporting regulations.	ARRA Section 1512	Met Requirement	
	The State established clear	ARRA	Met	

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Critical Element	Requirement	Citation	Results	Page
	policies and procedures for compliance with applicable reporting requirements.	Sections 14008 and 1512	Requirement	
	The State provided guidance on reporting to LEAs.	ARRA Sections 14008 and 1512	Met Requirement	
	The State provided feedback to LEAs on the data reported.	ARRA Sections 14008 and 1512	Met Requirement	
Sub-recipient Monitoring	The State has developed a monitoring plan with appropriate policies and procedures to assure compliance with applicable Federal requirements and that the grant performance goals are being achieved throughout the project period.	EDGAR §80.40; Race to the Top grant condition “O”	Met Requirement	
	The State has developed comprehensive monitoring protocols that include programmatic and fiscal monitoring.	EDGAR §80.40; Race to the Top grant condition “O”	Met Requirement	
	The State has established a reasonable monitoring schedule.	EDGAR §80.40; Race to the Top grant condition “O”	Met Requirement	
	The State has provided monitoring reports and corrective action follow-up (when available).	EDGAR §80.40; Race to the Top grant condition “O”	Met Requirement	

Monitoring Report Results

Outstanding Issues, Concerns, or Clarifications for Verification

During the Year 3 review, the Department determined that the State incorrectly applied its indirect cost rate to more than the first \$25,000 of each subaward across several projects, resulting in higher indirect cost charges than allowed under Race to the Top and the State's approved indirect cost agreement. In December 2013, the State submitted amendments that included revised budgets and supporting documentation revising its indirect cost expenditures for Years 1-3. The revised budgets that were reviewed by the Department in June 2014 demonstrate that the issues identified during the Year 3 review are resolved.